

WO-290

1851, 1888

Taylorville United Methodist Church
Taylorville
Public worship

The Taylorville United Methodist Church is one of the few nineteenth century structures that defines the former mill community of Taylorville. Named for Laban J. Taylor and his family, the village contained several residences, grist and saw mills along with the Methodist Episcopal church by the time the 1877 Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson atlas was published.

Laban J. Taylor, one of the largest land owners in the vicinity during the mid nineteenth century, donated the land for the church. On November 26, 1856, Laban and his wife Sally, transferred a three-quarter acre parcel of land to the trustees of what was then called St. Andrew's Methodist Episcopal Church South. The deed for the property included the description, "...beginning at a maple standing at the edge of Taylors Mill pond & thence running East 15 poles to the county road leading from Taylors Mill to St. Martins Church"

The foundation datestone of the church documents the initial construction of the building in 1851 as well as a remodeling in 1888. The significance of another date, September 30, 1900, is uncertain. Also of interest is an inscription in the front concrete pavement documenting additional work on the property. It reads, "Those who did work in 1910, W. T. Pennewell, Z. W. Jones, S. W. Jones, H. Pruitt, F. D. Cathell, G. H. Hill, G. P. Collier, G. R. Jones, J. Casper, J. P. Bunting, J. H. Short, S. T. Quillen, G. Pointer, C. Powell, Ike Holland, G. Clark, C. Clark, J. Phillips, and J. Elliot.

HISTORIC CONTEXT INFORMATION

Resource Name: Taylorville Methodist Church

MHT Inventory Number: WO-290

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA:

1) Historic Period Theme(s):

ARCHITECTURE
RELIGION

2) Geographic Orientation:

EASTERN SHORE

3) Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

AGRICULTURAL - INDUSTRIAL TRANSITION
(1815 - 1870)

4) Resource Type(s):

1. STANDING STRUCTURE

A. CHURCH

2. LANDSCAPE FEATURE

B. CEMETERY

Maryland Historical Trust

State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic TAYLORVILLE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH SOUTH

and/or common

2. Location

street & number West side of Adkins Road __ not for publication

city, town Taylorville __ vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Worcester

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Trustees of Taylorville Methodist Church

street & number Adkins Road telephone no.:

city, town Taylorville state and zip code MD

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Worcester County Clerk of Court liber

street & number Worcester County Courthouse folio

city, town Snow Hill state MD 21863

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date __ federal __ state __ county __ local

pository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. W0-290

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Taylorville Methodist Episcopal Church South stands on the west side of Adkins Road which intersects MD 589 in Taylorville, Worcester County, Maryland. The single-story frame church faces east with the gable roof oriented on an east/west axis.

Built in 1851 and remodeled in 1888, the single story gable front frame church is supported by a common bond brick foundation, and it is sheathed with a layer of vinyl siding. The medium pitched asphalt shingle roof has slightly extended eaves. A cemetery surrounds the church on three sides. Rising on the front of the building is an entrance and bell tower.

The east (main) elevation is a gabled facade, and the entrance tower projects slightly from the main wall surface. The heavily molded double front doors are topped by a Gothic arched colored glass transom. The belfry has been modified with vented sides. A shallow pitched pyramidal roof tops the tower. Fixed in the corner of the foundation is a datestone inscribed, "Taylorville M. E. Church South, Erected 1851, Remodeled 1888, September 30, 1900."

The north and south sides of the church are alike with three unevenly spaced arched windows filled with opaque colored glass panes. The west (rear) elevation is marked by a shed roofed altar extension lighted by single-pane side windows.

The interior was not seen.

Impressed in the front walk at the southeast corner is the following inscription, "Those who did work in 1910 W. T. Pennewell, Z. W. Jones, S. W. Jones, H. Pruitt, F. D. Cathell, G. H. Hill, G. P. Collier, G. R. Jones, J. Casper, J. P. Bunting, J. H. Short, S. T. Quillen, G. Pointer, C. Powell, Ike Holland, G. Clark, C. Clark, J. Phillips, J. Elliot, Repaved 1977."

8. Significance

Survey No. WO-290

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1851, 1888, 1900 **Builder/Architect**

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☒ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Taylorville United Methodist Church is one of the few nineteenth century structures that defines the former mill community of Taylorville. Named for Laban J. Taylor and his family the village contained several residences, grist and saw mills along with the Methodist Episcopal church by the time the 1877 Lake, Griffing and Stevenson atlas was published. Mid to late twentieth century development, especially Ocean Downs racetrack, has significantly altered the historic appearance of this community. Aside from a layer of vinyl siding and a modification of the tower, the single-story frame church retains its basic integrity with pointed or round arched window openings. A datestone in the foundation documents the 1851 construction date along with a remodeling in 1888.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property

Quadrangle name

Quadrangle scale

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

Zone

Easting

Northing

B

Zone

Easting

Northing

C

D

E

F

G

H

Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian

organization Worcester Countydate 3/1/89

street & number Worcester County Courthousetelephone 301-632-1194

city or town Snow Hillstate MD 21863

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

WO-290

TAYLORVILLE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH SOUTH

Taylorville

Deed of gift

JAP 1/143

Laban J. Taylor and Sally Taylor

to

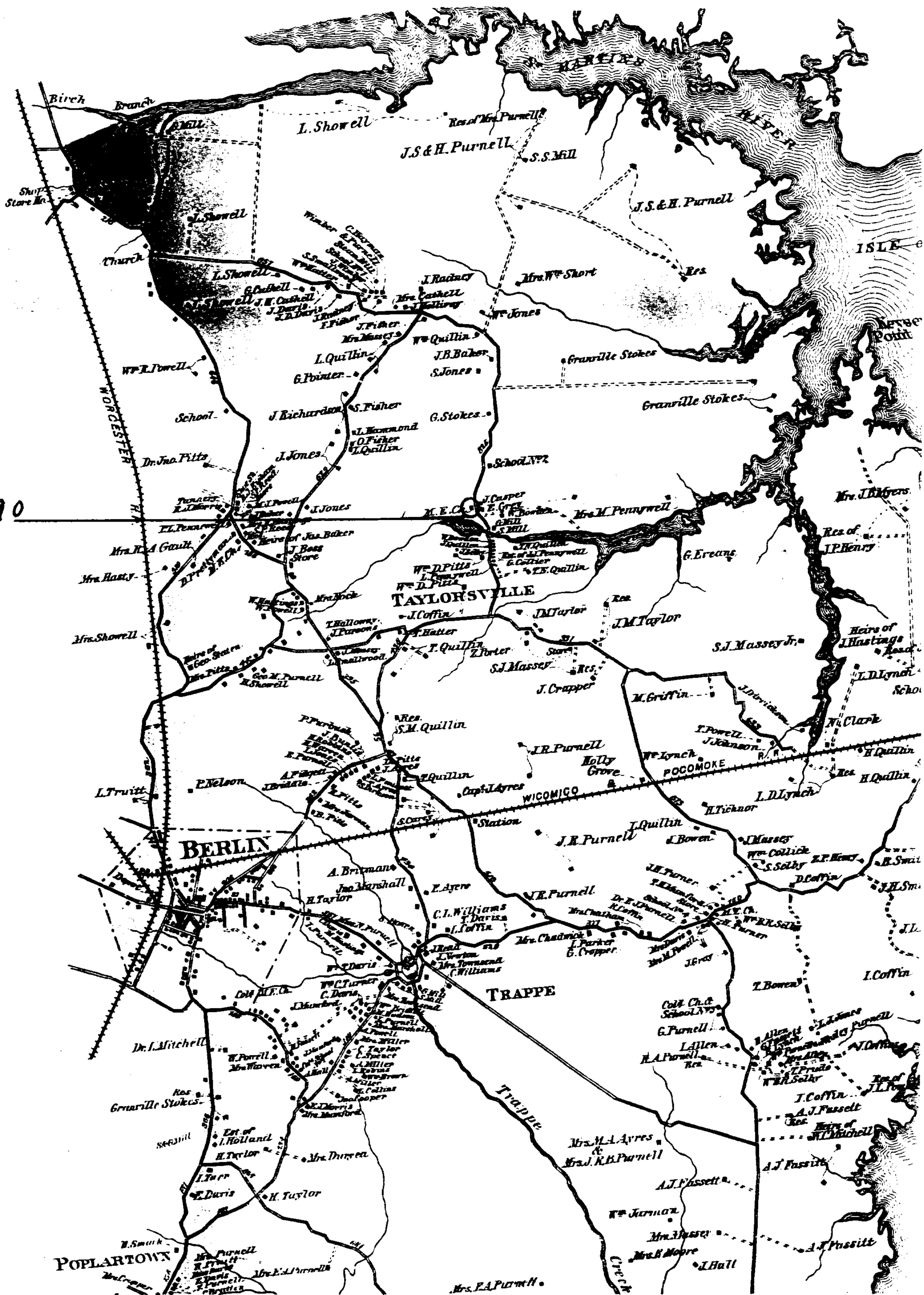
11/26/1856

Trustees of St. Andrews Church

John R. Pitts, Robert Pitts, James Massey,
James T. Jones, and Curtis W. Jacobs,
Trustees in trust for the use and benefit
of the Methodist Episcopal Church South

\$5.00 3/4 acre

Beginning at a maple standing at the edge
of Taylors Mill pond & thence running East
15 poles to the county road leading from
Taylors Mill to St. Martins Church



BERLIN QUADRANGLE
MARYLAND-WORCESTER CO
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

